

EDUCATION OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE

Minutes of the Meeting May 20, 1999

Members present

William Barnet, Rosie Berry, James E. Bryan, William Gummerson, Alex Martin, John Matthews, Joel Smith, Henry Spann, Robert Staton, Lynn Thompson, Ronald Townsend,

Welcome and Introductions

Mr. Barnet welcomed members and guests to the meeting. He noted that several legislative members were serving on conference committees that were meeting at the same time.

Approval of the Minutes

The minutes of the April meeting were approved as presented.

Subcommittee Reports

- A. **Academic Standards and Assessments:** Dr. Gummerson reported on behalf of the Subcommittee. He summarized the recommendations regarding the science content standards and offered the following motion, "The Subcommittee moves to approve the recommendations as presented to the Committee and withhold final approval of the science standards until the Committee has seen the revisions incorporated into the standards." The motion was seconded. Dr. Anderson responded to questions and affirmed that she and Mr. Wilson had met with Superintendent Tenenbaum about the recommendations. On behalf of the Subcommittee, Dr. Gummerson moved "that the Education Oversight Committee not accept any standards that are not accompanied by a comprehensive implementation plan." The motion was seconded and approved.
- B. **EIA and Improvement Mechanisms:** Mr. Staton had no report.
- C. **Parent Involvement:** Mrs. Thompson reported on the May 19 Task Force meeting. The work of the Task Force is proceeding. She reminded members of the June 17 meeting.
- D. **Public Awareness:** Mr. Smith reported the awarding of the contract to Chernoff Silver and Associates (in conjunction with the Grant Group). The Subcommittee met with representatives of the two firms on Tuesday, May 18, and discussed the public awareness efforts. A plan is under development that could include a back-to-school video, community roundtables and ETV programs.
- E. **Staff and Administration:** Mr. Barnet asked members to complete a form indicating their attendance at the July retreat. The Committee has contracted with Glenn Jacobus for facilitation; the retreat is scheduled at SC State's Daniel Conference Center.

Dr. Anderson reported on the development of the report card, referencing the draft June 1 report.

Remarks from a Key Constituency

Dr. Evelyn Berry spoke on behalf of the SC School Boards Association. Written copies of her remarks were distributed to members (and are on file in the EOC offices).

Other Business

Mr. Townsend informed the Committee that the House had concurred in the Senate amendments to the school facilities legislation. Mr. Barnet asked if district governance could be strengthened as a support for the utilization of the facilities monies. Senator Matthews indicated training for school board members could be strengthened.

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 3:30 p.m.